

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Why the Judges have not read it?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Government do not know.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Was it not possible for the Government to inquire of the Judges why they have not read it—such an important matter?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is not necessary.

Acting hands—statement of.

442. Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Will the Government be pleased to give a caste-war list of acting hands (1) thrown out and (2) in service in each of the departments of Government?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—A statement containing the available information is appended. (*Appendix I*).

Anthakara thodu—widening of—petition for.

443. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they have received any petitions from the people of Nadamel, Thelkumbhagam and other Villages of Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk, praying for the widening of the “Anthakara Thodu” and opening out the same to the backwaters in the west;

(b) whether any of these petitions have been referred to the Thiruvankulam Firkah Revenue Inspector; and if so, will the Government be pleased to place on the table copies of his remarks on the same;

(c) whether any reports on this matter have been received by the Government from the Registrar of Village Panchayats; and if so, will copies of those reports be placed on the table;

(d) what action they have taken so far in the matter?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes; copies of the remarks have been urgently called for.

(c) Yes; a copy of the report of the Registrar of Village Panchayats, dated 20th September 1931, C. No. 3070/1104, is placed on the table. (*Appendix II*).

(d) The drainage question is being investigated by the Public Works Department.

Canal to connect Nadamel market with the western backwaters—petition for opening.

444. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether any petitions have been received by them from the people of Nadamel and adjoining villages of the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk, praying for the opening of a canal connecting the Nadamel market with the western backwaters so as to

provide cheap water transit to Ernakulam, Cochin and other commercial centres;

(b) whether any reports on this matter have been received by the Government from the Chief Engineer and the Registrar of Village Panchayats; and if so, will copies of these reports be placed on the table;

(c) what action the Government have so far taken on these petitions;

(d) what reply they have given to each of these petitions?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes; copies of the Chief Engineer's reports, dated 30th October 1931 and 8th July 1932, C. No. 2872/06, and a copy of the Registrar of Village Panchayats' report, dated 20th January 1932, A. 1244/07, are placed on the table: (*Appendix III* (1), (2) and (3)).

(c) Government investigated the matter and found that the work could not be taken up owing to prohibitive cost.

(d) The petitioners were informed that the work of the canal cannot be taken up in view of the heavy cost involved.

Nemmara Irrigation Scheme.

445. Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the preliminary investigations regarding the irrigation scheme at Nemmara are over;

(b) will the reports regarding those schemes and especially the Erumakayam Scheme be placed on the table;

(c) what final steps do the Government propose to take in the matter?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) The report regarding the Peranda and Pothundi diversion schemes is placed on the table. (*Appendix IV.*)

Regarding the Erumakayam Scheme the Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 217 in the Council Session, dated 3rd Kumbham 1108 (14th February 1933).

(c) The scheme will be finally considered when finances improve.

Pay of certain posts.

446. Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what was the maximum pay of the following posts in the year when the maximum pay of the 1st grade Sub-Magistrate was fixed at Rs. 150;

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APPENDIX II.

Report dated 20th September 1931, C. No. 3070/1104 from the Registrar of Village Panchayats.

Subject:—Drainage canal—Nadamel Village.

Reference:—Huzur Endt: on C. No. 622/1106 dated 19th May 1931, P. W. D.

I made personal observations about the flood affected areas during the recent floods and before that. The villages affected in these regions are Tiruvankulam, Nadamel and Thekkumbhagam. The main outlets for the flood water now are the Puthenkulangara thodu in the north and the Karingachira in the south and these outlets being very small about three thousand acres of Cochin lands are affected by the floods in these villages. A drainage canal of sufficient width is, therefore, necessary for the safety of these lands.

2. The effect of the floods is more keenly felt in the regions to the north of the Hill Palace road, chiefly because the ventway of the bridge on this road is not sufficiently large for a free flow of the water to the south. To obviate this difficulty two courses are possible, (1) to open a canal from Karingachira, and Chitrapuzha to the west through the northern side of the Kotemkulangara temple and (2) to open a canal from the southern side of the Hill Palace road through the Andhara thodu and to put up an additional ventway to the bridges on the Hill Palace road. While the former is perhaps less costly, it has been complained that this canal would affect seriously the wet lands in Kadakodam, Perikad, Panamkutti, Thalamittam, etc., Desams. The latter is more costly, but it is likely to have a commercial importance without endangering any agricultural lands.

APPENDIX III—(1)

Letter dated 30th October 1931, C. No. 2872/1106, from the Chief Engineer.

Subject:—Trippunittura market—opening a canal to.

A sketch of the locality is enclosed for reference.

Item 1. Opening a canal from the western river to the market. The market is one of growing importance. The opening of a navigable canal connecting the market and the western river would facilitate cheap and easy transport of articles from Cochin and thus trade would flourish.

(II)

There is at present a small canal leading from the western river up to the Hospital. This has to be widened and deepened a little to facilitate navigation. This may then be extended to the market as per alignment shown in the sketch thus providing easy access to the interior. An area of about 5 acres will have to be acquired and this would cost about 12 to 15 thousand rupees. Two bridges have to be constructed where the new canal crosses the Udayamperur and Kannankulangara road. Together with the necessary earth work, the Assistant Engineer estimates that the canal will cost about Rs. 40,000. There is another section of the people who require the canal on the northern side of the Hill Palace road. The canal will be useful and the matter may be referred to the Road Board.

Regarding item 3, I beg to suggest that a well about 20' or 25' diameter with a pump and reservoir and a bathing house with taps and separate arrangements for males and females may be constructed in the open space on the eastern or northern side of the market. This would cost about Rs. 4,750 including land acquisition charges but exclusive of the cost of the pumping arrangements. This work is a necessity and may be done in 1108. The cost of pumping arrangements may come to about Rs. 2,400.

Regarding item 4, I have to report that gauges were fixed and readings taken at Karingochira bridge during the last monsoon in Mithunam and Karkadagam. The highest afflux was during the floods when the figure was about 12". This is not great. The bridge is very old and will be requiring reconstruction shortly. When it is done its ventway may be increased. The work would cost Rs. 12,000 and may be taken up in 1108 if funds permit.

There is no necessity for providing any more ventway at Kaniavalli as the total ventway there is already about 38 feet.

APPENDIX III. (2)

Letter dated 8th July 1932, C. 2872/06, from the Chief Engineer.

Subject:—Navigable canal to Trippunittura market—opening of.

I have the honour to inform you that I went into the question again with a view to reduce the Assistant Engineer's cost report of Rs. 40,000. Approximate spot levels were taken and a slight change in alignment was also made. The canal was also made smaller in section to 20' bottom width. Its length was also reduced by ending in Survey No. 1426 instead of to near the market proper.

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Survey No. 1428 through which the canal is proposed to be taken is now a poramboke having been acquired for constructing Police Lines and left unused.

The probable cost of the canal as above described will be about Rs. 26,000 as per the details enclosed. There is also a proposal to continue this canal due east to join the Kaniavalli stream. The canal will be only about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile in length and will be cheap to construct. This may, however, be taken up for consideration after the canal from the western river to the market is completed.

A sketch of the new alignment is enclosed.

APPENDIX III. (3)

Letter dated 20th January 1932, A. No. 1244/07, from the Registrar of Village Panchayats.

Subject:—Widening ventway of Karingochira bridge—
Nadamel Panchayat.

The widening of the ventway of the Karingochira bridge has already been sanctioned in Diwan's Proceedings D. Dis. 622/06, dated 5th December 1931, P. W. D. When the Karingochira bridge is widened, water from Irimpanam, etc., padoms which lie on the northern side of the bridge will be easily drained away but will accumulate in the padoms to the south of Karingochira and north of Kaniavalli chira since the opening of the latter chira is not wide enough to drain away the whole volume of water within a reasonable time. Thus in order to protect the crops of the padoms to the south of the Karingochira, the ventways of the Kaniavalli chira have also to be simultaneously widened. The Panchayat is of opinion that the eastern ventway of the Kaniavalli chira has to be widened by 20 feet.

2. I have my own doubts that even if wider openings are provided for the Karingochira and Kaniavalli chiras, the situation will be improved since water has to go to a distance of about nine miles before finally emptying itself into the backwaters *via* Poothotta. As an alternative, I would propose to open an east to west canal to connect the Kaniavallipuzha with Nettur Puzha which will empty the water more easily. If this is done, it appears there is no necessity for widening the ventway of Kaniavalli chira. The Chief Engineer may be consulted in these matters.